



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Southern District of Georgia*

*Post Office Box 8970
Savannah, GA 31412
(912) 652-4422 / FAX (912) 652-4805*

*100 Bull Street
Savannah, GA 31401*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT: Edmund A. Booth, Jr.
First Assistant U.S. Attorney
(706) 724-0517**

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**RESIDENT OF HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD
CHARGED WITH MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT**

SAVANNAH, GA: Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced that the federal grand jury sitting in Savannah has returned an indictment against a female resident of Hunter Army Airfield for making a false statement to federal authorities.

Christine E. Heath was charged in a single count indictment with making a false statement to federal authorities in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001. The indictment charges that on or about April 16, 2005, Heath falsely alleged that she was forcibly raped while living on the base, when in fact, as Heath knew, she had not been raped and no such sexual assault had occurred. This charge carries a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

Wood emphasized that an indictment is only an accusation and is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is entitled to a fair trial during which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Wood praised the cooperative investigative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Military Police at Hunter Army Airfield which led to the indictment.

The government is being represented by Assistant United States Attorney Brian F. McEvoy.

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